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REMARKS

Claims 1-50 and 52 are pending in the present Application. No claims have been cancelled, amended, or added. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-50 and 53 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-81 of co-pending U.S. Application No. 10/737,944 (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0166323) to Wang in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,103,336 to Sicloff. It is noted that Claim 53 has been cancelled in the prior response. It is assumed that there is a typographical error and that the rejection is of Claim 52, not 53.

Applicants note that the only remaining rejection is a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

The "provisional" double patenting rejection should continue to be made by the examiner in each application as long as there are conflicting claims in more than one application unless that "provisional" double patenting rejection is the only rejection remaining in one of the applications. If the "provisional" double patenting rejection in one application is the only rejection remaining in that application, the examiner should then withdraw that rejection and permit the application to issue as a patent, thereby converting the "provisional" double patenting rejection in the other application(s) into a double patenting rejection at the time the one application issues as a patent.

(MPEP 804.I.B.)

It is noted that the only remaining rejection in the present case is the provisional double patenting rejection. Hence, pursuant to MPEP 804.I.B., this rejection should be withdrawn, and the present case should be allowed.

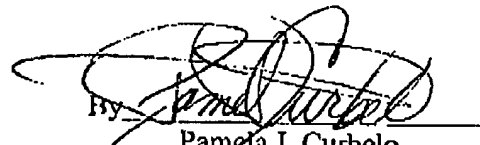
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It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the provisional rejection and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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